

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUSSEL 00073 121558Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-15 IO-14 /089 W  
-----129370 122021Z /44

R 121540Z JAN 78  
FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3384  
INFO USMISSION BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

UNCLAS DUSSELDORF 0073

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, PL, GW  
SUBJ: STATUS OF MAJDANEK TRIAL-DEFENDANT RYAN RELEASED  
FROM CUSTODY

REF: 77 DUESSELDORF 2000

1. FORMER MAJDANEK CONCENTRATION CAMP SUPERVISOR  
HERMINE RYAN-BRAUN-STEINER, NOW ON TRIAL IN THE  
DUESSELDORF DISTRICT COURT, WAS RELEASED FROM CUSTODY  
ON JAN 10, 1978, BY ORDER OF THE STATE SUPREME COURT.

2. MRS. RYAN WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY ON DEC 8, 1977  
FOR ATTEMPTING TO COERCE A POLICE WITNESS. THE  
SUPREME COURT RULED THAT THERE WERE NO GROUNDS FOR  
DETENTION OF THE DEFENDANT, WHO IN THE COURT'S OPINION  
HAD ACTED IN A STATE OF GREAT EXITEMENT. NONE OF THE  
OTHER 13 DEFENDANTS IS IN CUSTODY.

3. AFTER 222 DAYS OF TRIAL THE COURT HAS HEARD  
MORE THAN 150 WITNESSES AND IS PLANNING TO HEAR AT LEAST  
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ANOTHER 100 WITNESSES. THUS THE  
TRIAL, WHICH OPENED ON NOV 26, 1975 MAY WELL  
BECOME THE LONGEST TRIAL IN GERMANY AFTER WORLD WAR II,  
SURPASSING THE AUSCHWITZ TRIAL HELD IN FRANKFURT SOME  
TWENTY YEARS AGO. IT IS EXPECTED TO BE THE LAST LARGE-  
SCALE WAR CRIMES TRIAL. DUX

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978DUSSEL00073  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780018-1106  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** DUSSELDORF  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780173/aaaacjha.tel  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3789421  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STATUS OF MAJDANEK TRIAL-DEFENDANT RYAN RELEASED FROM CUSTODY  
**TAGS:** PINT, PL, GE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a1388be4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
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